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April 23, 2008

Mr. Douglas M. Charles
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Charles:

The following actions have been completed on your request for a classification review of selected items from the holdings of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library under the mandatory classification review provisions of Executive Order 12958.

One document has been declassified. A copy of the declassified document is enclosed. You will be billed for the copy when we send you an invoice for other documents declassified in whole or in part.

Portions of one document have been exempted from declassification as indicated on the enclosed list. A copy of the partially declassified document is enclosed. You will be billed for the copy when we send you an invoice for other documents declassified in whole or in part.

Should you wish to appeal the decisions to exempt material in whole or in part from declassification, please consult the "Appeal Instructions" previously sent to you.

If I may be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michelle Kopfer

MICHELLE M. KOPFER
Mandatory Review Staff

Enclosures

Document Reference Numbers:

Exempted in part: NLE 2006-158 #2

Declassified: NLE 2006-158 #1

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LIBRARY

I, Douglas M Charles hereby request the following document for classification review under the mandatory review procedures of Executive Order 12958.

- [] Dulles, John Foster: Papers, 1951-59 _____ Series
- [] Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Papers, 1953-61 _____ Series
- [] Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Records, 1953-61 (Confidential File)
- [] Herter, Christian A.: Papers, 1957-61
- [] Norstad, Lauris: Papers, 1930-87 _____ Series
- [] U.S. Council on Foreign Economic Policy: Records, 1955-61 _____ Series
- [] U.S. Council on Foreign Economic Policy, Office of the Chairman: Records, 1954-61 _____ Series; _____ Subseries
- [] White House Office, National Security Council Staff: Papers, 1948-61 _____ Series
- [] White House Office, Office of the Special Assistant for National Security Affairs: Records, 1952-61 _____ Series; _____ Subseries
- [] White House Office, Office of the Staff Secretary: Records, 1952-61 _____ Series; _____ Subseries
- [] Other: HENRY R. McPHER REID

Box No.: 8 Folder Title: BÄHLER, CHARLES 167-52

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Case #: NLE 2006-152; Doc. # 2

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Please provide all information requested in the four columns below as provided on GSA Form 7122, Withdrawal Sheet, if available.

Classified by	Sent to	Classification	No. of Pgs.	Entry No.	Form of Document	Correspondence or Title	Date of Document
FBI	FBI State	U	21		INVESTIGATIVE REPORT	CHARLES BÄHLER	3/16/53

FINAL ACTIONS:

Declassified with Excision

4/21/08



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 16, 1953

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3/17/53
SS

Honorable Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Adams:

Pursuant to the request of the Honorable John Foster Dulles, the Secretary of State, on February 18, 1953, an investigation of Charles Eustis Bohlen was made. There is attached for your information, a summary reflecting the results of the inquiries made by this Bureau. The results of these inquiries have also been made available to Mr. Dulles.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Attachment

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <u>NLE 2006-158*1</u>
By <u>MMK</u> NLE Date <u>4/21/08</u>

Authority NLE 2006-158 #2By mm NLDDE Date 4/21/08

United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

March 16, 1953

EO 12958
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CHARLES EUSTIS BOHLEN

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:A. BIRTH

The records of the Registrar, Harvard College, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, reflect that Bohlen was born on August 30, 1904, at Clayton, New York. His birth date could not be verified in the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, Albany, New York.

B. EDUCATION

Bohlen attended St. Paul's Preparatory School, Concord, New Hampshire, from September 1917, to June 1923, when he graduated. He attended Harvard College, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, from June 1923, to June 1927. He majored in history and received an A.B. degree.

C. EMPLOYMENT

Bohlen applied for a position with the Foreign Service of the United States Department of State on October 15, 1928. He was unemployed at the time of his application and no previous employments were reflected between the time of his graduation from Harvard College in June 1927 to the date of his application.

Appointee entered on duty with the Department of State as an unclassified Foreign Service Officer on March 26, 1929, at Washington, D. C. On May 1, 1929, appointee was promoted to the position of Vice Consul. He was assigned to Prague on July 10, 1929. Appointee was transferred to Paris, France, for language study on July 31, 1931.

Bohlen was transferred to the Embassy at Moscow, Russia, as Vice Consul on February 10, 1934. He was confirmed a diplomat on March 6, 1934. On May 24, 1934, Bohlen was designated Third Secretary at the Embassy in Moscow.

He was promoted to a Class 8 Foreign Service

Officer effective February 1, 1935. He was transferred to Washington, D. C., on August 26, 1935. On June 1, 1937, he was again promoted to the position of Class 7 Foreign Service Officer.

Bohlen was again assigned to Moscow as Second Secretary on July 4, 1937. He was appointed Consul at Moscow on April 21, 1938, and received another promotion to the position of Class 6 Foreign Service Officer on March 1, 1939.

Bohlen was transferred to Washington, D. C., effective July 8, 1940. He was sent to Tokyo, Japan, as Second Secretary, November 20, 1940. He was promoted to the position of Class 5 Foreign Service Officer, May 1, 1941. It is noted that the appointee was in Tokyo at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor and he was interned.

Bohlen returned to Washington, D. C., under repatriation, effective June 3, 1942. He was promoted to the position of Class 4 Foreign Service Officer June 16, 1943.

Appointee was transferred to Moscow as First Secretary, November 3, 1943. On January 12, 1944, appointee was transferred to Washington, D. C. He was promoted to Class 2 Foreign Service Officer May 16, 1945, and to Class 1 Foreign Service Officer May 15, 1947.

On June 19, 1948, appointee was appointed Career Minister. He was assigned as Minister to Paris on June 17, 1949.

Effective March 12, 1951, Bohlen was transferred to Washington, D. C., as Counselor of the Department of State.

Bohlen had the following special assignments: Secretary to the American delegation to the International Sugar Conference at London, England, 1937; Secretary of the American delegation to the Brussels Conference in 1937; accompanied Secretary of State to the Moscow Conference of 1943; attended the Teheran Conference, 1943; acted as area adviser for the United States group at the Dumbarton Oaks Conversations in 1944; accompanied former President Roosevelt to the Crimea Conference of 1945, (Yalta); acted as political and liaison officer of the United States delegation at the San Francisco Conference in 1945; acted as assistant to the United States member of the Council of Foreign Ministers

at London in 1945; attended the meeting of Foreign Secretaries at Moscow in 1945; attended the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris in 1946; designated chairman of the United States delegation to the Tripartite Conversations on Export Controls, London, 1950; served as Assistant Chief of the Division of European Affairs; served as Chief of the Division of Eastern European Affairs; special assistant to the Secretary of State and Counselor of the Department of State.

A memorandum in his personnel file under date of May 4, 1948, reflected in part "He has established himself as the leading diplomatic expert of the Department in all matters concerning the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union."

II. RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION:

Carmel Offie, Washington Representative, Free Trade Union Council, American Federation of Labor, in care of 1625 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., advised that he met the appointee in July 1934, at the Embassy in Moscow. He advised that Behlen was in the Embassy for about one year. Offie related that he has been a close associate of the appointee down through the years. He related that they were never stationed any other place together but that he saw him frequently in other places, such as Paris, Berlin, Rome, Algiers and Washington. He pointed out that he is very well acquainted with the appointee.

Offie advised that he returned to Washington during the winter of 1948-49 and that he needed a place to stay. He advised that the appointee and his wife were going abroad for a short period and that the appointee asked him to stay at his home at 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., during this period. He advised that the appointee left his two children in the home and that the children were primarily under the care of servants. He stated that he had the use of the appointee's home during October, November and December of 1948.

Offie advised the appointee is "an extremely intelligent and attractive fellow." He stated that during the period around 1934 while at Moscow, the appointee did considerable drinking. He advised that since his marriage he "gets drunk much less frequently." Continuing, Offie stated that he definitely disagrees with the appointee's thinking concerning the Soviet Union, stating that in his opinion "Behlen followed the Harry Hopkins line." He

stated that also the appointee as late as last year at a party in Paris, defended the Yalta agreements. He advised that personally he cannot understand the appointee's attitude of appeasement. He advised that personally he would not send the appointee to Moscow as that is the last place he would send him. He stated that "to send a man who prospered and who helped along the appeasement period is wrong."

Offie advised that he considers the appointee loyal to the United States and that in his opinion the appointee is of good character and associates.

During the course of a previous investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1949, a representative of another Governmental agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, advised that a confidential informant of his whom he described as of extremely high reliability who had met Carmel Offie, furnished him the following information:

Offie was a Class 4 Foreign Service Officer in Germany. He is single, not effeminate. He visited an admitted homosexual, on several occasions when in Washington. One night on leaving home in a cab, Offie propositioned the informant and told the informant that he would like to go to bed with him. The informant said, "I don't understand what you mean," and Offie said, "Oh, yes you do, I'd like to sleep with you." later told the informant that "Offie is as queer as a three dollar bill." The informant advised that among his close friends Offie is "gay" at the parties and on the occasions that he had seen him. The informant advised that Offie is known among the Washington higher homosexuals as "one of us."

At this time the representative of another Governmental agency advised that another of his confidential informants who had admitted to him that he was a homosexual, had told him that he had also heard that Carmel Offie is a homosexual. This informant had never had any relations with Offie but he stated that Offie has the reputation of being a homosexual and is well known. The informant said who had admitted to him that he is a homosexual and who subsequently resigned from the Department of State because of this, told him that Offie is a very good friend of his and that Offie is certainly a homosexual. had denied any relations with Offie because "We are not sexually attracted to each other" but that Offie is nevertheless a homosexual, and is known among quite a few of friends as a homosexual.

During the course of a previous investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the records of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., were examined concerning Offie. These records reflected Offie had been arrested on September 8, 1943, at 12:15 a.m., in the 800 block of Vermont Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C., and charged with "disorderly conduct - investigation - pervert." This record also disclosed that Offie had been arrested by Officers Pitts and Blick of the Sex Squad of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., since he had approached Officer Pitts and attempted to induce him to engage in a homosexual act. As a result of this arrest, Offie was permitted to post twenty-five dollars collateral which he forfeited.

During the course of another investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the files of another Governmental agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, were checked and they contained information that Carmel Offie had listed Charles E. Bohlen as a character reference.

A representative of another Governmental agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations advised that the files of his Governmental agency disclosed that whose present whereabouts is unknown, had given the appointee as a reference on his Application For Federal Employment in connection with his employment by the War Assets Administration.

This representative of another Governmental agency stated was discharged from the Foreign Service, Department of State, for being a homosexual. He said that freely admitted his homosexual activity. He also advised that the files reflect that was arrested by the United States Park Police, Washington, D. C., on April 15, 1948, on a charge of perversion. He also stated was dishonorably discharged from the United States Navy on a charge of homosexuality. He said that had served in Moscow, Russia, with the appointee in 1934.

The representative of another Government agency advised that said he is forty-two years of age and stated that he has always been a homosexual.

related that in all of his forty-two years as a homosexual, he has learned to separate the "queer" from the men. said he can "spot" them very easily and has never made a mistake in this activity. described it as part of a sixth sense. (gay dop)

..... also said that Bohlen walks, acts and talks like a homosexual. admitted that he has had no relations with Bohlen, but strongly believes Bohlen to be a homosexual. also stated he worked with Bohlen in Moscow, Russia, when both were employed in the Foreign Service.

John Matson, Special Agent, Office of Security, Department of State, Washington, D. C., advised he is not presently acquainted with appointee. Matson said he has never testified before any Senate Committee concerning Bohlen. (included issue)

Matson stated that the only information he has concerning Bohlen was obtained in connection with his job in the Security Office of the Department of State which consists of reading reports and cross indexing names concerning the interviews of Department of State employees suspected of homosexuality. Matson advised that he knows that the Department of State has an index card on Bohlen in this regard and that Bohlen was associated with sexual pervers. (O)

Information contained in the Office of Security, Department of State, has been reviewed and the results set out in this memorandum. (included issue)

The representative of another Governmental agency, described above, advised that during the course of a previous investigation conducted by the agency by which he is employed concerning an employee of the Voice of America in New York City, advised representatives of this Governmental agency that he had lived with and at New York City. During the previous investigation conducted by the above-mentioned Governmental agency, George Kennan, former Ambassador to Russia, was interviewed and he advised representatives of the above Governmental agency that he had met (State) [Thayer & Nabokoff] ? ? ?

2811.
Dumbarton Ave.

.....at the home of the appointee at 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., and that he had seenthere several times socially. The appointee was interviewed by representatives of the above-mentioned Governmental agency concerning and the appointee advised he had met in 1943, and that had frequently been a guest in his home, primarily for discussion of the Voice of America Program.

The above-mentioned representative of another Governmental agency also furnished the following information:

He said that in 1947, executed an Application For Federal Employment and gave the appointee as a reference.

He said that on January 24, 1947, when applying for a position with the Voice of America, listed his address as 2811 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. This is the residence of appointee.

He stated that the appointee has resided at this same address since 1942, except when on foreign assignment.

He said that [Nabakoff] was interviewed on June 25, 1948, by representatives of the agency by which he was employed and [Nabakoff] denied being a homosexual. [Nabakoff] admitted associations with the Russian ballet [Dishileff] impresario, and a French poet in Paris. admitted these individuals are internationally known homosexuals but claimed his association was professional in nature. also admitted a lifetime association with a great number of homosexuals "some because of their artistic interests and the fact that he has no antipathy toward homosexuals." said he "finds some of them to be most charming people whose friendship he does not care to lose." denied having sexual relations with Charles W. Thayer and while [Brosse] residing at 1350 Madison Avenue, New York City. He denied knowing was a homosexual.

This representative of another Governmental agency said that representatives of his agency interviewed a French citizen who was employed by the United Nations in 1948. At the time of the interview, admitted homosexual activities of every type known and stated that he would engage in any type of homosexual activity. He admitted engaging in homosexual activity while residing in the apartment

[Zan Cocke]
[Nabakoff]Jacques
Brosse↓
see
Thuy
5755[Nabakoff]
see 5755
22 July 1948 Doc
11 May

[5120]

See Thayer Summary
in Thayer file.
Thayer 5/555

[Wabokoff]

of Charles W. Thayer and at 1350 Madison Avenue, New York City, but denied relations with either of them. stated he had heard from other homosexuals that was a homosexual. He related that had parties at 1350 Madison Avenue, New York City, with only homosexuals in attendance.

[Bosse]

..... said that Charles Thayer's room was across the hall from his in the apartment. He related that he had seen Thayer take men friends into the bedroom until two or three in the morning. He advised that he had been unable to hear their conversations and said that he did not know whether or not Thayer was a homosexual.

..... advised she divorced one month ago. She said she became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Bohlen through that he had known the Bohlens prior to their marriage, and they had continued a close friendship with the Bohlens. She recalled that she and her former husband had stayed with the Bohlens on several occasions in Paris in 1950, and had seen them on a number of occasions there. She also recalled visiting the Bohlens in Washington, D. C. She explained that although she was not aware of the extent of her former husband's relationship with the Bohlens prior to their marriage, she believed that during their marriage had not been in touch with Bohlen except at times when she and Mrs. Bohlen were also present.

..... described appointee as being of un- questionable character, reputation, associates, and morality. [Wabokoff?] She said in the fields of music and letters in which she and her former husband were engaged, they had become acquainted with some people whom she believed to be homosexuals. She declined to identify such people and stated that to her knowledge, none of these persons were friends or acquaintances of the Bohlens.

..... was interviewed by a representative of this Bureau in Paris, France, at which time he furnished the following information:

He said he originally met appointee at a luncheon party in Washington, D. C., in about 1943. He denied ever living in the appointee's home but said that during 1944-1945 and again during 1947 and 1949, he frequently stayed overnight in the appointee's home in Washington, D. C. He also stayed overnight in the appointee's home in Paris on several occasions in 1950. He described the appointee as

his closest American friend in the United States, one who fully understands the evil nature of the Soviet regime and as the best possible choice for United States Ambassador to Russia.

..... said the appointee is completely loyal to the United States, is of exceptional intelligence, is a family man, and of excellent moral character.

..... stated he shared an apartment for several months in New York City with Charles Thayer, appointee's brother-in-law, in 1947 when he and Thayer were associated with the Voice of America.

..... stated he last saw the appointee in Washington, D. C., about three weeks ago and wrote to him from Berlin, Germany, on March 8, 1953.

The files of the French police do not contain any derogatory information concerning appointee or (Brosse)

The November 9, 1947, issue of the Sunday "Star," Washington, D. C., contains an article by Richard L. Stokes concerning the appointee which is entitled "A Technician Among The Diplomats." The article reflects that the Bohlen family in America is related to the Krupp von Bohlen Dynasty of Armament Makers in the Ruhr. The article reflects that while Bohlen was Second Secretary in Moscow, Russia, in 1947, he shared a room with a young Vice Consul, Charles W. Thayer of Philadelphia. This article reflects Bohlen married Thayer's sister.

By letter dated March 6, 1953, the Under Secretary for Administration, Department of State, Washington, D. C., advised Charles W. Thayer who was located at the American Consul General, Munich, Germany, that ".... it has been concluded that proceedings should be instituted to separate you from the Foreign Service on charges of misconduct pertaining to morality. I believe you are fully aware of the information that has been found in the Department's investigations...."

The representative of another Governmental agency previously mentioned in this memorandum, advised he interviewed Charles W. Thayer in April of 1951, concerning the information furnished by previously set out in this memorandum. He also interviewed him concerning other matters. He related that Thayer categorically denied being a homosexual.

This representative of another Governmental agency advised that the files of his agency contain an admission on

[Thayer admitted
to a sex
act?]

the part of Thayer to engaging in one act of homosexuality while on a foreign assignment. This representative declined to name the other party involved or reveal when or where this act took place. This representative said that in addition to the above information, the files of his agency reflect that Thayer admitted being the father of the child of.....

Charles W. Thayer, when employed as Chief of the International Broadcasting Division, United States Department of State, New York City, was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1949, under the provisions of Executive Order 9835, the President's Loyalty Program. Copies of the results of this investigation were furnished to the United States Civil Service Commission, and by letter dated February 14, 1950, the Chairman, Loyalty Review Board, United States Civil Service Commission, advised Thayer was "Eligible on loyalty."

[was for the
1950]

A confidential informant of unknown reliability who formerly worked in the same suite of offices as the appointee during 1951 when he was in Washington, D. C., on a special assignment, furnished the following information:

The informant was never comfortable in the same room with the appointee and was uncomfortable when she heard the appointee talk. She related there is a definite shading in his conversation and in his manner of speech which indicates effeminacy. She said the appointee had a habit of running his tongue over his lip in the manner utilized by a woman. On at least three or four occasions during the short period of time he was in Washington, D. C., he called a Mr. Thayer, his brother-in-law, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She said Bohlen used to visit his brother-in-law over the week end during this period.

She advised she overheard conversations between Bohlen and Thayer and the conversations definitely were not of a business nature but were purely personal. She stated the appointee's tone of conversation in speaking to Thayer was definitely not the normal tone used in conversations with others. She said Bohlen's tone of voice was decidedly different, sounded effeminate, and was "quite girlish." She stated the only time Bohlen did not sound effeminate was when he spoke in the French language.

This informant said the appointee is considered to be quite a brilliant person in the Department of State and he impressed her strongly with his intense loyalty to the United States.

This informant said that notwithstanding the information she had furnished, she would unhesitatingly recommend Bohlen for the position of Ambassador to Russia.

William C. Bullitt, Washington, D. C., former Ambassador to Russia, advised that he met the appointee around 1934 when Bohlen was a language student in Paris. Bullitt informed that he took Bohlen to Moscow with him to work in the Embassy. He related that Bohlen was in the Embassy from one to two years and that his conduct became "intolerable." He related that Bohlen, during this period, was drinking excessively and that he personally asked for his recall to the Department of State. Bullitt said there would be no record of this in the files of the Department of State as the entire matter was handled by him on a personal basis.

Bullitt stated that the appointee's brother-in-law, Charles Thayer, was also in the Embassy in Moscow during this period and that Thayer and the appointee were very close friends. He pointed out that Bohlen subsequently married Thayer's sister, and that he personally has a very high regard for Mrs. Bohlen.

Bullitt stated that during that period of time Charles Thayer "frequently got horribly and dangerously drunk." He stated that he called Thayer in and told him if he did not stop his excessive drinking he would "kick him out of the State Department."

Bullitt said there is no question concerning the appointee's loyalty to the United States or his moral character. He advised that the appointee is extremely clever and quite a brilliant individual. He advised that personally, he has the utmost contempt for Bohlen and has told him so to his face. He related that approximately several years ago he called Bohlen a "cheap profiteer on American disaster." Bullitt stated that the above related to what he considered a lack of ethics on the part of the appointee. He advised that during the war years appointee "went along with the theme of Harry Hopkins that the Soviet Union was a peace loving democracy and that he has certainly furthered his career by so doing." He pointed out that other men in similar positions, such as "Loy Henderson who had the backbone and ethics to refuse to go along with anything that was not for the best interests of the United States were exiled to posts such as Bagdad." He stated

the appointee's career on the other hand has skyrocketed.

Bullitt stated that the appointee is a "careerist" and that he is personally opposed to career men in the Foreign Service, stating as his reason, that they worry more about jeopardizing their career than they do about the United States. Bullitt advised that he feels that a Foreign Service Officer should stand for his country and the truth even if he loses his job for his action.

He advised that he has no specific information which he thinks should stand in the way of Mr. Bohlen's appointment.

Jay Lovestone, a self-acknowledged former leader of the Communist Party, both nationally and internationally, advised he is not a close personal friend of Bohlen but has met him on occasions socially and had discussions with him. He has never had any reason to question Bohlen's loyalty, morality, character or reputation; however, he does question his judgment. Lovestone said on one occasion he recalled discussing with Bohlen the trial of Alger Hiss and this discussion occurred between the first and second trials of Hiss. Lovestone does not recall Bohlen's exact comments but said Bohlen had implied that he was not impressed by the facts as brought out in the first trial of Hiss and he would await the verdict of the second trial before considering his guilt. Lovestone said in his opinion this attitude on the part of Bohlen caused him to question Bohlen's judgment. He stated he also questioned Bohlen's judgment in defending the Yalta agreement.

Isaac Don Levine, Washington, D. C., advised he was born in Russia, and came to the United States in 1911. He said he was the author of the first biography ever published on Stalin and Lenin. Levine said during 1951 and 1952, he was the European Director of the American Committee For The Liberation Of The Peoples Of Russia, Incorporated, at Munich, Germany, and in this capacity was frequently in contact with the appointee.

Levine said the occasions of his discussions with Bohlen have been to discuss the Soviet Union and Communism. Levine stated he believes Bohlen is a completely loyal American and is an honest anti-Communist, but "he swallowed the Hopkins line that Soviet Russia would be primarily interested, after the War, in domestic reconstruction and that a ten-billion-dollar loan such as Harriman proposed to give Stalin during World War II would keep the Soviet Government out of Western Europe." Levine said, "Bohlen, as far as I know,

stuck for years to this line and followed it at Yalta." Levine also stated Bohlen "never played with the pro-Soviet group which was functioning at a policy level in the State Department."

Levine said that up until Stalin's death, he believed he was in favor of Bohlen's appointment to Moscow as an Ambassador but now that Stalin is dead, he strongly believes Bohlen's appointment to Moscow should definitely be held up. He advised there is a definite and real danger that Bohlen may seek to bring American policy back to the Yalta line of "adjustment" with Russia on terms which would leave Russia in possession of all the "loot" including the greater part of North Korea.

Levine stated that in his opinion Bohlen is definitely more interested in his career than in his country and for this reason combined with the above, he would recommend against Bohlen's appointment to Moscow. He said he wanted to make it clear that he would not oppose Bohlen's nomination to any other country in the world with the exception of Russia.

A confidential informant of unknown reliability, who was formerly a high-ranking officer in the United States Air Force, advised he first became acquainted with Bohlen in 1942. He never had any particularly close association or contact with Bohlen until December 1945, at which time this informant was assigned to the Joint Intelligence Staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also has had social contacts with Bohlen.

This informant said that from the dealings he had with Bohlen, he is definitely of the opinion that Bohlen has "no strength of character, is an opportunist, interested in his career and playing ball with his superiors." He said the position assumed by Bohlen "as an expert adviser was in concert with other like-minded people who went along completely with the Roosevelt-Stalin united front tactics."

He said the appointee epitomizes the "soft appeasement policy followed by the United States in dealing with Russia." He advised he definitely feels that Bohlen should not be sent to Moscow.

Arthur Bliss Lane, Washington, D. C., former Ambassador to Poland, advised he first met Bohlen in 1944 and during the period between 1944 and 1945, worked very closely with Bohlen in Washington, D. C. He said Bohlen

[McLeod
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had always indicated to him a desire to placate the Soviet Union and satellite countries. Lane said when Bohlen realized that he was opposed to this attitude, Bohlen appeared to stop confiding in him. He pointed out that at one time Bohlen had shown him all of the telegrams, et cetera, which had been sent to Poland and which concerned Poland, but that after Bohlen became aware that he was opposed to the appeasement policy that Bohlen appeared to "hold back."

Lane stated that after the Yalta Conference, he attempted to learn from Bohlen what went on at the Conference which concerned Poland. He was never told of the United States agreements and commitments as affecting Poland even though it was Bohlen's responsibility to so inform him. He advised that the same applies as affecting the Potsdam Conference.

Lane said that it is his own personal knowledge that Bohlen has been the controlling force behind our relations with the Soviet Union and the satellite countries since 1944. He described Bohlen as "the man behind the scenes."

Lane stated it never occurred to him that Bohlen, "who had been the personification of our appeasement policy, should be appointed to Moscow." He said Bohlen was personally responsible for the policy which was repudiated in the elections last November. He advised it was Bohlen who suggested to Averell Harriman in 1945 that Harry Hopkins should go to Moscow and make the concessions to the Russians, which made the holding of the Potsdam Conference possible. He said this was definitely the turning point in our relations with the Soviet Union inasmuch as once the Soviets realized that we would go to any lengths to negotiate peace they began to pursue their aggressive attitude toward the United States.

Lane stated that in 1946, while he was Ambassador to Poland, Bohlen was the force behind a ninety-million-dollar loan to Poland. He stated that it is inconceivable to him that an individual could recommend the economic build-up of a Communist enemy of the United States. He advised he attributes this action to a definite error in judgment. Lane stated that the appointee is not an associate of pro-Communists and that he does not feel that Bohlen is a pro-Communist. He stated his real fault in character is that he thinks he knows more about the Soviets and Communism than anyone else in the United States. He related that Bohlen is so conceited that

he feels that he is the last word and final authority on dealings with the Soviets. Lane advised that he thinks that the appointee's assignment to Moscow is a grave mistake and that "to put an apologist of the Soviet Union, Yalta and the appeasement policy to the Soviet Union in the position of Ambassador to Moscow is wrong."

Lane advised that this appointment, in his opinion, would be a definite indication to the Soviet Union that we still go along with the old appeasement policy. He pointed out in this regard that Bohlen actually made this policy himself and that he was far more than merely an interpreter at Yalta, inasmuch as he had been making our policy towards the Soviet Union even before Yalta. He advised that History has already shown that the appointee was definitely in error.

Ray Benton Brock, former correspondent of the "New York Times" volunteered information in May 1950, in regard to Bohlen. Brock stated that he did not desire to allege that Bohlen was either a Communist, a Communist sympathizer or even a "left winger," but that he has always been puzzled by Bohlen's connection in the Department of State. He stated that Bohlen is a "Harvardian" and came into the Department of State at about the same time that many of the Harvard group sponsored by Felix Frankfurter moved into the Department of State and other departments, including such men as Alger and Donald Hiss. Brock stated that as far as he has been able to observe, Bohlen has always had an intense interest in Russia and reportedly took two trips to Russia, either immediately before becoming connected with the Department of State or shortly thereafter. He stated that Bohlen speaks Russian fluently, whereas Alger Hiss does not speak Russian, but that at each of the important conferences between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, and later with President Truman, Bohlen and Hiss were generally photographed on either side of the President, along with the Secretary of State. Brock stated that Bohlen acted as both adviser and interpreter for Roosevelt at Teheran, Yalta, and Cairo, and later for President Truman at Potsdam. It is noted that Brock was among the newsmen covering the conference at Teheran. Brock stated that the worst he could accuse Bohlen of is that he participated in Soviet "appeasement" to the following extent.

Brock stated that Bohlen, being among the top four or five American officials at these conferences including the President, the Secretary of State, Alger Hiss, Bohlen, et al, and being the only really top level official with ability to fluently speak and understand Russian and having been in the Russian Section of the

Department of State ever since he began to work there, wielded considerable influence, possibly even more than Alger Hiss, but at least second only to Hiss' influence. Brock added that Bohlen, of necessity, was aware of, and had to participate in the formulation of policy, the making of quick decisions and concessions at the various conferences. He added that American policy at Teheran "sealed the doom of Poland by the Stettin-Trieste line, and also agreed to Russian occupation of the Baltic States." Brock stated that at Yalta, American policy "agreed to the Russian occupation of Manchuria and the Kurile Islands, and was the beginning of the end insofar as China is concerned," and that "all of these agreements were in direct violation of the Atlantic Charter in which we pledged that there would be no territorial violations of any of our allies."


Brock stated that in addition to this, he, Brock had been present at a reception of diplomats, military leaders, newsmen, et cetera, given by General Donald M. Connolly, Commander of the Persian Gulf Command during the war, at which numerous Russians were present. Brock stated that Bohlen was present at this conference and circulated freely among the Russians chatting, shaking hands, back-slapping and appearing overly friendly to the point that he appeared "obeisant to them." He stated that he did not know what topics were discussed with them by Bohlen, nor was there any indication that Bohlen's conduct was in any way prejudicial to the interests of the United States.

Brock said that for the above reasons he has suspected Bohlen, and although he has no proof of any disloyalty on Bohlen's part, it seems peculiar that one who was so closely associated with Hiss and other "Harvardians" could escape unscathed insofar as the taint of "left wing" activity is concerned. Brock admitted that this information was meager, but that it at least convinced him that Bohlen's activities should be "watched."


Brock furnished the names of certain individuals whom he recommended be interviewed in the event an inquiry of Bohlen was ever made. These individuals have been interviewed and the results of the interviews have been set out in this memorandum.

Ray Benton Brock, presently a newspaper correspondent at New York City, was interviewed in connection with the current investigation. He advised that he had nothing additional to furnish to the remarks previously furnished, except to say that it was his belief, from conversations with persons in the Department of State that an "area of mistrust" exists in the Department of State in regard to Bohlen. He added that in his opinion the appointment of Bohlen to a responsible position would be a mistake.

A. INTERVIEWS WITH BUSINESS ASSOCIATES
AND SOCIAL ACQUAINTANCES

The following persons were interviewed concerning appointee's character, reputation, associates, loyalty and ability. None of these persons had any unfavorable comments to make concerning him. 

Walworth Barbour, Director, Office of Eastern European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General Alexander Barmine, Chief of the Russian Branch, International Broadcasting Division, Department of State, New York City. 

James Bondbright, Deputy Assistant Director, Bureau of European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General Omar Bradley, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

David Bruce, former Ambassador to France, New York City.

Governor James F. Byrnes, Columbia, South Carolina.

General Robert C. Outler, Administrative Assistant to the President.

Richard H. Davis, Officer in Charge of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Allen W. Dulles, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D. C.

James E. Dunn, Ambassador, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

David Finlay, Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.

Joseph E. Grew, former Ambassador, Washington, D. C.

John Hickerson, Assistant Secretary for the United Nations, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

George F. Kennan, former Ambassador to Moscow, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Helen P. Kirkpatrick, Public Affairs Adviser, Bureau of European Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

James Lay, Jr., Executive Secretary of the National Security Council, Washington, D. C.

H. Freeman Matthews, Deputy Under Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General Willis Matthews, Executive Officer to General Omar Bradley, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

Colonel Harry McBride, former Assistant to Secretary of State Cordell Hull, Washington, D. C.

Robert McBride, Officer in Charge, French-Iberian Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Michael James McDermott, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Press Relations, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

General George C. Marshall, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

Paul H. Nitze, Director, Policy Planning Staff, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

G. Howland Shaw, former official in the Department of State, Washington, D. C.

W. Bedell Smith, Under Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Paul Ward, a Washington correspondent for the "Baltimore Sun" who specializes in reporting foreign affairs.

Frank Wisner, Deputy Director, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D. C.

Mary C. Wojnar, Secretary to the Counselor, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

B. RELATIVES AND MARITAL STATUS

Members of the appointee's immediate family are set out as follows:

Wife - Avis Howard Bohlen, nee Thayer, born September 18, 1912 (date of marriage August 29, 1935).

Children - Avis Thayer Bohlen, born April 20, 1940. Charles Eustis Bohlen, Jr., born April 19, 1947, (associates of appointee indicate that in addition to the above two children, the appointee has one infant daughter).

Brother - Henry Bohlen, deceased.

Sister - Ellen M. Bohlen, Aiken, South Carolina.

Father - Charles Bohlen, born January 14, 1866, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Mother - Celestine Bohlen, nee Eustis, born April 11, 1877, at New Orleans, Louisiana.

Grandfather - James B. Eustis, former Ambassador to France and a former United States Senator. (Appointee's parents and grandfather are deceased.)

The records of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., contain a record of seven traffic charges against the appointee's wife during the period 1936-1952. There is no record of the appointee's wife in the files of the Police Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; the Police Department, Lower Merion, Pennsylvania, which covers

Villanova, Pennsylvania; and the Philadelphia Credit Bureau, Incorporated, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

There is no record of at the Police Department, Aiken, South Carolina, and the Sheriff's Office, Aiken County, South Carolina. The Credit Bureau of Aiken, South Carolina, reflects as having a satisfactory credit rating. During this investigation, persons who commented concerning the appointee's immediate family described them as loyal Americans of good character and reputation.

C. INTERVIEWS WITH NEIGHBORS

During this investigation, neighbors of the appointee at Washington, D. C., were interviewed and they did not furnish any unfavorable information regarding his character, loyalty, reputation, and associates.

D. CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

No arrest record for the appointee was found in a check of the records of the following law enforcement agencies:

United States Park Police, Washington, D. C.

Police Department, Concord, New Hampshire.

Police Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Police Department, Lower Merion, Pennsylvania.

Police Department, New York City.

The files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., reflected one traffic charge against the appointee. The records of the Massachusetts State Board of Probation, Boston, Massachusetts, a central repository for all criminal records in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, reflected two traffic violations for the appointee. One of these occurred on September 13, 1922, at West Roxbury District Court, where he was fined five dollars for a "traffic violation." On November 14, 1924, he appeared in Malden District Court, Malden, Massachusetts, and was charged with "no license," and fined ten dollars.

The credit bureaus serving the localities listed above where arrest records were checked, reported no unfavor-

able information concerning the appointee.

E. AGENCY CHECKS

See Hoover doc copy for this info

C.I.A.

Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

House Committee On Un-American Activities,
Washington, D. C.

Passport Division, Department of State, Washington,
D. C.

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